

GREEN POWER News

WAPA's Renewable Resources Program covering
green power, reports, studies and funding

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to the *Green Power News Update*. This is a summary of the stories that ran during **August and September 2018**. New stories are added throughout the month to make sure you always know what is happening in our fast-changing industry. Check back often to see what's new!

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[Previous issues](#)

[In this issue:](#)

Green Power

- Solar trade groups roll out tool to streamline permitting, interconnection
- First Distributed Energy Conference to be held in Colorado
- Demand Response & Distributed Energy Resources World Forum: Optimizing Auto-DR and Distributed Energy Resources for the Future Network
- What Red State Kansas Can Teach Blue State Mass. About Renewable Energy
- Colorado Springs Utilities signs deals for 95 MW of solar
- Introduction to Green Power Supply Options

Reports and Studies

- NREL releases report on solar potential for low income households
- OK, You Met Your Renewable Goals — Now What?
- Led by Surging Residential Sector, Q2 US Energy Storage Deployments Grow 200% Year-Over-Year
- Updated Guide to Purchasing Green Power Released
- 2018 Utility Solar Market Snapshot - Part I of a III part series
- More Breakthroughs Are Needed to Keep Wildlife From Curtailing Wind Farms

Funding

- Energy Department Announces \$5 Million for Energy Planning, Innovative Energy Practices, and Technical Assistance in 16 States
- DOE provides \$148M in funding for separate energy storage research efforts
- Department of Energy funds \$9 million in tribal energy projects, includes solar
- Mark Your Calendar for the 2018 Office of Indian Energy Program Review

Green Power

Solar trade groups roll out tool to streamline permitting, interconnection

Dive Brief:

- Two national solar groups on Monday launched a new campaign aimed at streamlining the permitting and inspection process, which they say adds approximately \$1/watt to the cost of a typical residential solar energy installation.
- The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and The Solar Foundation (TSF) teamed up on the proposal to replace the current "patchwork" of rules and regulations with "standardized online permitting and interconnection" tools they say could save \$7,000 on the average rooftop installation.
- The groups say a move to its Solar Automated Permit Processing (SolarAPP) could mean the development of an additional 1.1 million residential solar systems and 30,000 jobs over a five year period.

Source: Utility Dive, 9/25/18

First Distributed Energy Conference to be held in Colorado

Oct. 15-17

**Denver Marriot West
Golden, Colorado**

Drawing on the experience and 135+ year history of POWER magazine, along with two decades of success in bringing together power generation professionals with the ELECTRIC POWER conference, our team is launching the Distributed Energy Conference (DEC), providing a platform for power industry executives and operational specialists with hands-on experience to exchange insights and ideas. DEC offers a fresh look at distributed generation through a conference program and sponsor opportunity prospectus focused on commercial, industrial, and utility applications; business case strategies; regulatory issues; and grid integration challenges.

Source: Power Magazine, 9/20/18

Demand Response & Distributed Energy Resources World Forum: Optimizing Auto-DR and Distributed Energy Resources for the Future Network

Oct. 16-17

Costa Mesa, California

Utilities around the world are under increasing pressure to accommodate energy efficiency, control load, and integrate distributed energy resources such as renewables. These factors plus an urgent need to control greenhouse gasses are driving new requirements for energy resiliency, sustainability, and power quality -- all of which impact the traditional utility business case. For utilities to thrive in this changing market, they must embrace greater network agility and work with customers to maximize value for all stakeholders in the value chain.

Source: Utility Dive, 9/19/18

What Red State Kansas Can Teach Blue State Mass. About Renewable Energy

Cloud County, Kansas, is about as far as you can get, politically speaking, from proudly progressive Massachusetts. In the 2016 election, 75 percent of the county's voters supported Donald Trump. Yet it was there, almost a decade ago, that I saw my first utility-scale wind farm, its turbines stretching gracefully across wheat fields and cattle pastures. Why, I wondered at the time, was wind power welcomed by this staunchly conservative farming and ranching community while we New Englanders — avid theoretical supporters of clean energy — were so busy fighting wind development in the Berkshires and on Nantucket Sound?

Source: WBUR Radio via American Wind Energy Association, 8/14/18

Colorado Springs Utilities signs deals for 95 MW of solar

Public power utility Colorado Springs Utilities on July 17 said that it has signed agreements with developers for two utility-scale solar projects that will total 95 megawatts.

The two projects will boost the utility's solar energy offering to 130 megawatts. Combined with hydro power, the utility's renewable energy portfolio will total about 15 percent of its summer generating capacity when the projects come online, Colorado Springs Utilities said.

The energy generated by both projects combined will be purchased by Springs Utilities for less than \$31 per megawatt hour.

Source: Public Power Daily, 7/18/18

Introduction to Green Power Supply Options

Aug. 15

11 am-noon MT

A variety of green power supply options are available to consumers in today's market. This webinar, hosted by U.S. EPA's Green Power Partnership, will provide a high-level review of each option, detail to whom and where the option is available, and discuss each option's benefits and drawbacks. Attendees will learn about the following green power supply options: unbundled renewable energy certificates, competitive electricity products, utility green power products, community choice aggregation, self-supply, green tariffs, shared renewables, and power purchase agreements.

The webinar will also provide a tutorial on EPA's Green Power Supply Options Screening Tool. This free tool helps non-profit and for-profit organizations decide which supply options might work for them. Based on answers to a few simple questions, the tool returns easy-to-understand guidance about which green power supply options are available in their state.

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 8/7/18

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Reports and Studies

NREL releases report on solar potential for low income households

Rooftop Solar Technical Potential for Low-to-Moderate Income Households in the United States expands upon previous NREL research investigating the technical potential of rooftop solar in the United States, aiming to improve the understanding in the residential sector, particularly for low-to-moderate income households. Technical potential is a metric that quantifies the maximum generation available from a technology for a given region and does not consider the economic or market viability. A unique contribution of this work is to estimate rooftop solar technical potential of residential buildings per U.S. Census Tract by income, building type, and tenure.

NREL researchers actively publish their latest scientific findings and breakthroughs in technical reports, journal articles, conference papers, patents, presentations, and more.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 9/1/18 Reports and Studies

OK, You Met Your Renewable Goals — Now What?

State laws boosting wind and solar power have seen remarkable success over the past two decades.

But in the past couple of years, the role of renewable portfolio standards — state requirements for utilities to supply a minimum amount of retail electricity from renewable energy — has waned, according to a Lawrence Berkeley National Lab study. In some cases the use of renewables has grown even without mandates, but many environmental leaders contend they are still necessary to drive growth in the industry.

Source: Stateline, 9/12/18

Led by Surging Residential Sector, Q2 US Energy Storage Deployments Grow 200% Year-Over-Year

Highlights from the latest U.S. Energy Storage Monitor

For the first time ever, the U.S. saw more home energy storage than front-of-meter storage deployed in a single quarter.

According to the latest U.S. Energy Storage Monitor from the Energy Storage Association and Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables (formerly known as GTM Research) 156.5 megawatt-hours of energy storage were deployed in the second quarter of 2018, triple what was deployed in the second quarter of 2017. The residential segment led the way, growing tenfold year-over-year.

Residential deployments were concentrated in two states, California and Hawaii, which together account for 72 percent of megawatt-hours on the quarter. Wood Mackenzie Power & Renewables senior analyst Brett Simon notes that there are no signs these two states will relinquish their residential market lead; however, he posits that there is an exciting race for the No. 3 spot. Simon points to both Massachusetts with its new SMART program and Arizona, which may see some new tariff structures, as key contenders.

Source: Greentech Media, 9/6/18

Updated Guide to Purchasing Green Power Released

EPA is pleased to announce the release of the updated Guide to Purchasing Green Power. The Guide provides current and potential buyers of green power with information about green power purchasing. It covers the green power procurement process, different green power supply options, benefits of green power purchasing, as well as information on how to capture the greatest benefit from your purchase.

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 8/22/18

2018 Utility Solar Market Snapshot - Part I of a III part series

Direct from utilities: hard facts, no guesswork.

The 11th annual Utility Solar Market Snapshot delivers what no other industry report can: analysis and figures based on verified interconnection data from over 420 utilities across the United States. In this year's snapshot, you'll find the most significant solar deployment insights along with national trends to keep you up to date on the U.S. solar market.

SEPA surveyed electric utilities from across the country to bring you the most accurate data, trends, and insights possible.

Source: Smart Electric Power Association, 8/22/18

More Breakthroughs Are Needed to Keep Wildlife From Curtailing Wind Farms

The wind industry has done a lot to protect wildlife. But there are still more technological and operational solutions to pursue.

People with binoculars stationed around a wind farm in Wyoming spotted just 17 out of 100 birds flying nearby that a battery of computer-driven cameras was able to "see" with their electronic eyes.

The camera system, within a half a second of spotting each bird, could tell whether it was an eagle with over 90 percent accuracy. That compared to 70 percent accuracy for the eyes of human spotters.

The trials have been so promising that Duke Energy bought 24 of the IdentiFlight units to anchor a smart curtailment strategy at its Top of the World site in Glenrock. The project was previously handed a \$1 million federal fine in 2013 for fatal collisions with birds, including 14 golden eagles.

Source: Greentech Media via American Wind Energy Association, 8/13/18

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Funding

Energy Department Announces \$5 Million for Energy Planning, Innovative Energy Practices, and Technical Assistance in 16 States

Today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced approximately \$5 million in funding for 16 states to enhance energy security, advance state-led energy initiatives, and improve energy productivity. Through DOE's **State Energy Program** (SEP), each of the 16 awardees will work to advance energy efficiency, renewable energy, grid resiliency, and improve energy reliability and affordability. Several of the SEP projects are multi-state partnerships, expanding the impact of these investments.

Learn more about the projects announced today [HERE](#).

Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 9/21/18

DOE provides \$148M in funding for separate energy storage research efforts

Dive Brief:

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on Tuesday announced \$148 million in funding for two separate initiatives aimed at advancing research into energy storage technologies.
- The DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) program announced awards totaling just over \$28 million for 10 projects that aim to increase the duration of energy storage systems up to 100 hours.
- The DOE also said it would provide \$120 million over five years to renew funding for the Joint Center for Energy Storage Research (JCESR) program that does research and development on new battery materials

Source: Utility Dive, 9/19/18

Department of Energy funds \$9 million in tribal energy projects, includes solar

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced today nearly \$9 million in funding for 15 tribal energy infrastructure projects. This funding through the DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs will help Native American and Alaska Native communities harness their vast undeveloped energy resources to reduce or stabilize energy costs, as well as increase energy security and resilience.

These energy projects, valued in total at nearly \$25 million, are the result of a competitive funding opportunity announcement (FOA) announced February 16, 2018.

"This funding opportunity was the first time the Office of Indian Energy has solicited fuel- and technology-neutral projects, which expands the potential for tribes to utilize the particular resources they have available on their lands," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry. "These new projects exemplify this Administration's all-of-the-above energy policy and principles of true tribal sovereignty."

Source: Solar Power World via Utility Dive, 8/15/18

Mark Your Calendar for the 2018 Office of Indian Energy Program Review

Save the date for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Annual Office of Indian Energy Program Review to be held the week of December 10, 2018, in Lakewood, Colorado. This annual Program Review is a tremendous opportunity for Indian tribes to meet, learn from other Indian tribes that are pursuing energy self-sufficiency, and share in each other's successes.

The 2018 Program Review will feature project status updates from tribes across the nation who are leveraging Office of Indian Energy grant funding to deploy energy technologies or initiate the first steps to energy development.

While the event is focused on currently funded projects, it is open to all of Indian Country.

Source: DOE Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, 8/3/18

Find more [funding sources](#).